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quick facts on...

Water Savings Incentive Program (WaterSIP)

Partnering through Grants to Conserve Our Water Resources

JANUARY 2009

The South Florida Water Management District

is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

Our Mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply.



Low-flow showerheads can cut water use in half, with no discernable difference to the user.

Meeting Growing Demands for Water

South Florida's unprecedented growth and development has presented water managers with bold challenges to provide water supplies for ever-increasing demands, while continuing to ensure our natural water resources are protected and preserved. The area's population is expected to reach over 7 million within the next decade, so every drop of water is a precious resource.

Recent water supply plans have concluded that historically used freshwater sources will not be sufficient to meet all future water needs of the region, therefore we must work together to conserve water and develop alternative sources of water supply. Water conservation and supply projects take the cooperation of many parties – water management districts, local governments, utilities, homeowners' associations – in fact, everyone who resides in or visits the area.

Water Conservation Initiatives

The South Florida Water Management District has developed a cost-sharing program to assist public and organizational entities with innovative technology-based water conservation projects that help reduce water use.

The initiative is nicknamed WaterSIP, for Water Savings Incentive Program. Projects funded through the program are non-capital in nature, meaning not part of a public water provider's or user's capital improvement program.

Types of projects funded have included automatic flushing devices for hydrants, pressure stabilization valves, indoor plumbing retrofits, large area irrigation controls, soil moisture technology, and rain shut-off devices for irrigation systems.



Automatic Flushing Valves save utilities hundreds of thousands of gallons a month protecting drinking water quality.

Funding and Application Process

The WaterSIP program is funded annually, with approval from the District's Governing Board. Entities seeking funding must be able to match at least 50% of the total costs for the project, either with matching funds or in-kind services unless the entity is a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) community. Projects commence on October 1, 2009 and must be completed by August 28, 2010. Potential applicants would include cities, public utilities and water providers, homeowners' associations, schools and commercial facilities.

Applicants submit proposals in response to a grant solicitation posted on the District web site at www.sfwmd.gov. A selection committee consisting of Governing Board appointed members and District staff rank eligible projects based on selection criteria that include:

- Conservation efficiency (estimated number of gallons saved per year)
- Cost effectiveness
- Environmental and/or community benefits
- Innovation

Once the project is selected, ranked, and submitted to the Governing Board for approval, a dynamic partnership begins that is focused on preserving South Florida's future.

Partners in Water Savings

The District's water conservation partners and projects for the 2009 fiscal year are listed below:

- 14th Street Townhomes Association - Indoor Plumbing Retrofit and Rain Shut-Off Device Program
- City of Coconut Creek - Residential Dual Flush Valve Installation
- City of Ft Lauderdale Parks & Recreation - Rain Sensor and High-Efficiency Irrigation System Installation
- City of Hallandale Beach - Selective Volume Flush Toilet-Retrofit Program
- City of Hollywood - Automatic Line Flushing Device Program
- City of Labelle - Automatic Line Flushing Device Program
- City of Labelle - Mobile Meter Reading and Leak Detection Program
- City of Miami Springs - Irrigation Rain Sensor Shut-off Devices
- City of Miramar - Residential Plumbing Fixture Replacement Program
- City of Miramar - Flush Valve Replacement Program
- City of North Miami Beach - Showerhead Exchange Program
- City of North Miami Beach - Rain Harvest Irrigation Program
- City of Oakland Park - Indoor Plumbing Fixture Retrofit Project
- City of Opalocka - Automatic Hydrant Flushing Device Program
- City of Pahokee - Water Meter Replacement
- City of Plantation - Dual Flush/High-Efficiency Toilet Retrofit Rebate Program
- City of Plantation - Automatic Hydrant Flushing Device Program
- City of Port St Lucie - Automatic Fire Hydrant Flushing Devices
- City of Sanibel - Rain Sensor Project
- City of Stuart - Landscape Irrigation Efficiency Rebate Program
- City of Stuart - Indoor Plumbing Retrofit Exchange Program
- City of Stuart - Toilet Retrofit Rebate Program
- City of Tamarac - Indoor Plumbing Retrofit Project
- City of West Palm Beach - Landscape Irrigation Technology Retrofit Project
- FAU/Division of Research - Water Conservation Landscaping Project
- Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority - Florida Keys Rain Catchment Initiative
- Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority - High-Efficiency Toilet Retrofit Rebate
- Florida Governmental Utility Authority - Automatic Hydrant Flushers Program
- Marco Resort & Club Condominium Association, Inc. - Toilet Retrofit Program
- Mediterra Community Association - Satellite Irrigation Control System
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Senior and Low Income Full Plumbing Retrofit Project
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Plumbing Retrofit Rebate Project
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Automatic Meter Reading with Leak Detection Monitoring Project
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Water-Use Evaluations Project
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Irrigation Evaluation with Soil Moisture Sensor Project
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Multi-Family High-Efficiency Full Retrofit Project
- Miami-Dade Water & Sewer - Single-Family High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate Project
- Orange County Utilities - Irrigation Retrofit Program
- Royal Seafarer Condominium Apts. - Low-Flow Toilets Installation Program
- School District of Lee County - Indoor Plumbing Fixture Retrofits
- School District of Palm Beach County - Waterless Urinal Installation Project
- Town of Fort Myers Beach - Automatic Hydrant Flushers Program
- Village of 800 Place Condominium Association, Inc. - Irrigation System Improvement Program
- Villorosi at Mediterra Neighborhood Association, Inc. - Irrigation System Upgrade

Grant Cycle Approaching

WaterSIP grants selected for implementation in fiscal year 2009 totaled \$1.03 million and will result in an estimated water savings of 550 million gallons of water a year. We invite you to apply for a grant in February 2009 for project funding in fiscal year 2009. And we encourage you to become a key player by helping us implement solutions for conserving our water resources.

Partnerships are the hallmark of water management district activities. Over the years, the role of water management has broadened and evolved into that of facilitator and implementer. As we move ahead to address long-term water needs, these partnerships will bring key players to the table to help develop solutions.

"The Application for WaterSIP is released annually in February, but is subject to change. Please check with the WaterSIP webpage or the District's Solicitations Calendar."

Download applications from the District's website. Go to **www.sfwmd.gov** and click on **Procurement & Contracts** in the left column. Then click on the **Solicitations Calendar** icon in the left column.

For more information, contact **Robert Wanvestraut** at **561-682-2054** or email **rwanvest@sfwmd.gov**



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SERVICE CENTERS

Big Cypress Basin/Naples
 239-263-7615
Broward
 954-713-3200
Florida Keys (Plantation Key)
 305-853-3219 or 800-464-5067
Lower West Coast
 239-338-2929 or 800-248-1201

Martin/St. Lucie
 772-223-2600 or 800-250-4100
Miami-Dade
 305-377-7274 or 800-250-4300
Okeechobee
 863-462-5260 or 800-250-4200
Orlando
 407-858-6100 or 800-250-4250
Palm Beach County
 561-682-6000 or 800-432-2045